

SUPPORT FOR STUDY OF CIA

Mr. HARKER. Mr. President, the proposal made by Senator McCARTHY recently for a Foreign Relations Committee study of the role of the Central Intelligence Agency in foreign policy has drawn several favorable comments editorially. One newspaper making such editorial comments is the Evansville, Ind., Courier in its February 9 edition. In fact, the paper indicates its approval also for the bill offered by Senator YOUNG of Ohio to establish a joint Senate-House Committee for continuing understanding of CIA operations.

I ask unanimous consent that the editorial, entitled "Surveillance of CIA," be printed in the Congressional Record.

There being no objection, the editorial was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

"SURVEILLANCE OF CIA"

Past efforts to bring the Central Intelligence Agency under some meaningful scrutiny by Congress has not gotten far. Those who espouse the CIA's viewpoint have thwarted such moves. Their central argument is that the CIA's effectiveness as a highly secret undertaking would be crippled if Congress were to ask embarrassing questions.

This argument has come up against some which are more than its match. The CIA is being called increasingly into question for its evident dabbling in foreign policy. Some of its clandestine operations are demonstrably not for the purpose of gathering intelligence, and sometimes constitute interference in the internal affairs of other nations.

This imperils the national interest of the United States. The fact that little is known about CIA operations, so that observers are forced into the ticky waters of conjecture, is in itself dangerous. Secret or not, the CIA should in reasonable measure be subject to the same rule that applies to all Federal agencies: it is the public's business, and the public has a right to know what it is up to.

It is against this background that one must consider two current attempts, by Senators STEPHEN M. YOUNG and EUGENE J. McCARTHY, to assert the congressional right of surveillance over the CIA as over the other agencies. Senator McCARTHY would clear the air with a "full and complete study," to be made by a Foreign Relations Subcommittee, of how the CIA affects U.S. foreign relations. YOUNG wants Congress to set up a permanent joint Senate-House committee to keep an eye on the intelligence agency. Both proposals have merit, and the first might indeed provide valuable guidelines for operation of a committee. Discreetly handled, surveillance by a committee would not hurt the CIA and might keep it from getting out of control.